(c) the following steps have been taken :—

(i) The Tobacco Board plans the crop size taking into account the domestic and international demand and supply position.

(ii) The Tobacco Board conducts auction sales of FCV tobacco on a transparent basis which ensures prompt and fair payment.

(iii) Every year, Government declares minimum support prices for FCV tobacco.

(iv) Exports of tobacco and tobacco products are allowed freely.

Export of Agricultural Products

7372. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total agricultural products exported in terms of foreign exchange during the last three years;

(b) the types of agricultural produce exported on the above foreign exchange;

(c) the target set for export of agricultural produce during the next three years; and

(d) whether Government propose to introduce incentive schemes for the agriculturists to achieve the set targets ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) Total agricultural products (excluding cotton) exported during the last three years are given below :—

(Rs. crores)

1991-92	1992-93	1993-94 (April—Feb.)
4585.22	5513.32	6752.37

(Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta).

These agricultural products include oil meals, cashew, spices, tobacco, fruits & vegetables, meat and meat products, sugar and molasses and rice etc.

(c) The export projection in the Eight Plan in respect of agricultural commodities, at 1991-92 prices are given below :—

(Rs. Crores at 1991-92 prices)

Sl. No.	Commodity	1991-92	1996-97	Rate of growth (%) per annum
1.	Tobacco	377	450	3.6
2.	Oilcakes	871	1250	7.5
3.	Spices	370	447	3.9
4.	Cashew Kernels	668	1047	9.4
5.	Rice	755	1127	8.3
6.	Meat & Preparations	231	354	8.9
7.	Misc. Processed Foods	332	700	16.1
8.	Fruits and Vegetables	349	573	10.4
9.	Sugar and Molasses	144	1100	50.2
10.	Not classified	471	950	15.1
	TOTAL	4568	7998	

(SOURCE : Table 3.31— Export Projections for the Eighth Plan—Eighth Five Year Plan 1992-97 (Vol. I) by Planning Commission).

(d) The introduction of a unified exchange rate, liberalisations made in EXIM Policy 1992-97, lowering the import duties on certain inputs and materials, required by the agricultural sector, extension of the benefits available to units under the scheme of Export Oriented Units (EOU)/Export Processing Zones (EPZs), and allowing the exporters of agricultural commodities to sell upto 50% of their produce in the domestic tariff area are all steps intended to improve and enlarge exports of farm products.

Trade between India and China

7373. SHRI JAGMOHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment made by the Centre for Global Trade Development shows that there is a potential of $25 billion bi-lateral trade between China and India;

(b) whether Government broadly agrees with this assessment ; and

(c) if so, what measures are contemplated by Government to tap this potential ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Recently newspaper reports have indicated that such an assessment has been made by the centre for Global Trade Development, a U.S. based research information group. Government does not have detailed information of either this centre or its report.

(b) In the absence of the full report no comments on the assessment are possible.

(c) Does not arise.

कोककारी कोयले का आयात

7374. श्री राम जेठमलानी :
श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज :

क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में गत वर्षों से कोयले के उत्पादन में वृद्धि के बावूज कोककारी कोयले के आयात में निरन्तर वृद्धि होती जा रही है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो वर्ष 1991–92, 1992–93 और 1993–94 के दौरान कितनी मात्रा में कोककारी कोयले का आयात किया गया ;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि देश में न्यूनतम राख मिश्रित कोकिंग कोयला प्रचुर मात्रा में उपलब्ध नहीं है जिसके परिणामस्वरूप इसके आयात में निरन्तर वृद्धि हो रही हैं ; और

(घ) 1991–92, 1992–93 और 1993–94 के वर्षों के दौरान कितने प्रतिशत तथा कितनी मात्रा में न्यूनतम राख मिश्रित कोककारी कोयला उपलब्ध कराया गया ?

वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रणव मुखर्जी) : (क) से (घ) उदारीकृत निर्यात एवं आयात नीति, 1992–97 के तहत सभी व्यक्तियों को बिना किसी प्रतिबंध के मुक्त रूप से कोयला आयात करने की अनुमति है। धुले हुये कोकिंग कोयले का स्वदेश में उत्पादन देश में इस्पात संयंत्रों की स्वदेशी मांग को पूरा करने के लिये पर्याप्त नहीं है। अतः मांग एवं आपूर्ति के बीच अंतराल को पूरा करने के लिये ब्लेन्डिंग कार्यों के लिये कम राख वाला कोकिंग कोयला आयात किया जा रहा है। उपलब्ध आंकड़ों के अनुसार वर्ष, 1991–92, 1992–93 और 1993–94 (जनवरी, 1994 तक अनंतिम) के दौरान क्रमशः 5272144, 6324700 और 5338689 टन कोकिंग कोयले का आयात किया गया था (स्रोत: डी जी सी आई एंड एस, कलकत्ता)।

Reduction of import duties in developed countries

7375. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :
SHRI P. UPENDRA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that since the formation of GATT